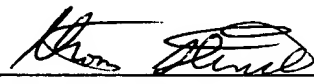042930.P5761

REMARKS

Please substitute this abstract of the disclosure paragraph for the existing the abstract of the disclosure paragraph. Please cancel claims 6, 21, and 26 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 18 and 22. Please add claims 29, 30 and 31. The remarks and amendments are to clarify the existing specification and to eliminate any ambiguity in the claims. The Examiner is being expressly put on notice that the amendments to the claims were not made to overcome the cited art. This note acts to overcome the presumption that any amendment to the claims is made in order to overcome the cited art. See Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., November 2000. Applicant respectfully submits that any modifications to the specification or the claims do not constitute new matter.

Consideration of the application as preliminarily amended is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: _3-8_____, 2002

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VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS:

Please cancel claims 6, 21, and 26 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 18 and 22:

1. (Amended) A method for restoring a memory value comprising:

identifying a first logic value stored in a first register;

branching to a first predefined location within programming code based upon the first logic value;

executing the programming code in a processor firmware layer;

utilizing the first register as a scratch register during the execution of the programming code; and

restoring the first logic value back to the first register after execution of the programming code has finished.

18. (Amended) An article of manufacture for use in a digital processing system for storing a logic value in a programming code, the article of manufacture comprising a machine readable medium having machine readable program code embodied in the medium, the program code comprising:

identifying a first logic value stored in a first register;

branching to a first predefined location within programming code in response to the first logic value;

executing the programming code in a processor firmware layer;

utilizing the first register as a scratch register during the execution of the programming code; and

restoring the first logic value back to the first register in response to the first predefined location.

22. (Amended) A computer system comprising:

means for identifying a first logic value stored in a first register;

means for branching to a first predefined location within a programming code based upon the first logic value;

means for executing the programming code in a processor firmware layer;

means for utilizing the first register as a scratch register during the execution of the programming code; and

means for restoring the first logic value back to the first register in response to the first predefined location.

Please add claims 29, 30 and 31.

29. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the processor firmware layer comprises firmware that utilizes machine readable language.

30. (NEW) The article of manufacture of claim 18, wherein the processor firmware layer comprises firmware that utilizes machine readable language.

31. (NEW) The computer system of claim 22, wherein the processor firmware layer comprises firmware that utilizes machine readable language.

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Please substitute this abstract of the disclosure paragraph for the existing abstract of the disclosure paragraph.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A↑

A method and an apparatus for restoring logic states using programming code are disclosed. In one embodiment, the process of a data processing system identifies a first logic value stored in a first register and branches to a first location within the programming code based upon the first logic value. The execution of the programming code occurs in a processor firmware layer. The first register can be used as a scratch register for the subsequent instruction